North Minneapolis Greenway Fall 2012 Community Report - Executive Summary

About the north Minneapolis greenway project:

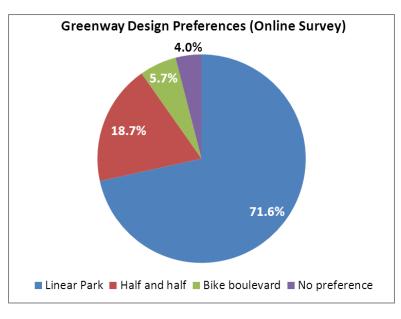
The City of Minneapolis is developing plans to convert a low-traffic street in north Minneapolis to a greenway, which is a safe, accessible route for bicyclists and pedestrians. Now in the earliest planning stages, the greenway can become a bike boulevard (shared between bikes and cars but with traffic calming features), a full greenway with no motorized traffic, or a "half and half" with both a trail and car traffic. The greenway would be a north-south route starting at Victory Memorial Parkway on the north and passing the Crystal Lake Cemetery, Folwell Park and North Commons Park. The bikeway will be the second of its kind in north Minneapolis. This project is a response to community interest in a greenway and is supported by the City of Minneapolis through the Statewide Health Improvement Program, funded by the Minnesota Department of Health.

Fall 2012 community input process:

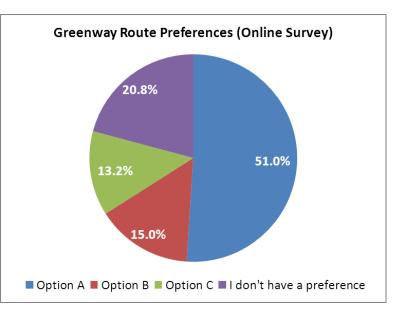
In September, the City began a process to inform people about the greenway project and to collect input on what a greenway should look like and what route it should take. City staff collected community input with an online survey, at a community open house at Folwell Park Oct. 16, over the phone, and by email. City staff also attended several community events to gather input from residents. The survey tools used in the engagement process are available in Appendix B of this report.

Summary of community input:

- 452 people completed surveys either online or at the open house, including more than 240 people who live in north Minneapolis. Of the survey respondents who live in north Minneapolis, 121 live near or within four blocks of a proposed greenway route, and 111 people live on a proposed greenway route.
- Generally, respondents were favorable to the idea of converting a low-traffic street to a greenway in north Minneapolis.
- Of the three design options, the respondents favored a full greenway the linear park with 72% of online survey respondents choosing this design option. The half-and-half design option was also popular, and the bike boulevard design was least favored.
- Participants said they liked the linear park greenway option because would provide full separation from cars, increase green space, allow for extra amenities like BBQs and community gardens, draw people into the community, and be family-friendly.



- Although the full linear park design was favored, a small number of respondents strongly disliked this option. Respondents had concerns about cost, parking, access to homes, emergency vehicle access, safety, and maintenance.
- Participants favored Route Option A, which is the most direct route option. It
 provides a fast way to commute and get to destinations; however, it still
 passes by or connects to several parks and green spaces, making it a good
 recreational route as well.
- Many online survey respondents living on both Routes A and B preferred that
 the route be on their streets. In fact, 100% of online survey respondents who
 live on Route Option A want the greenway to be on their streets. However,
 some open house attendees who live on Route Option A preferred that the
 greenway not be on their streets.



Project next steps:

Based on the recommendations of the project steering committee, the City will work with its contractor (SRF Consulting) to identify a greenway route and develop concept plans for the greenway along the route. At the same time, the City will conduct outreach to households along the route to share the greenway concepts and continue to gather input to use in planning. The City will also be conducting outreach to cultural communities that have not been well-represented in the community engagement process up to this point. A second community meeting will be held in late January or early February to present the concept plans and any additional input that has been gathered.

How to get more information and stay connected:

For more information, visit the project website at http://www.minneapolismn.gov/health/ship/northminneapolisgreenway or contact Sarah Stewart (sarah.stewart@minneapolismn.gov, 612-673-3987). Anyone interested in being added to the project email list may also email Sarah with their contact information.



Funded by the Minnesota Department of Health through its Statewide Health Improvement Program.

If you need this material in an alternative format please call Ahmed Muhumud at (612) 673-2162 or email Ahmed.Muhumud@ci.minneapolis.mn.us Deaf and hard-of-hearing persons may use a relay service to call 311 agents at (612) 673-3000. TTY users may call (612) 673-2157 or (612) 673-2626. Attention: If you have any questions regarding this material please call 612-673-2301

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